REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful examination of the application. However, in view of the foregoing amendments and the remarks that follow, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

Claims 38, 41, 42, 46, 49, 50, 54 and 58-61 are currently under examination. Claims 35-37, 39, 40, 43-45, 47, 48, 51-53 and 55-57 have been withdrawn as a result of the February 6, 2008, Election of Species Requirement.

Art Rejections:

Claims 38, 41, 42, 46, 49, 50, 54 and 58-61 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,827,279 to *Teraura*, in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0109194 to *Yano*, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0075867 to *Watanabe et al.*

Independent claim 38 is directed to an image forming device. A reading unit reads image data from an electronic tag of an electronically tagged printed matter. Image data is printed on electronically tagged printing paper equipped with the electronic tag for storing electronic data in a certain part of the printing paper. The electronic tag stores image data printed on the electronically tagged printing paper. A second reading unit reads out modifiable attribute information corresponding to attribute information which constitutes an appearance of original image data of the image data on the electronically tagged printed matter from the electronic tag. A display unit displays the modifiable attribute information read out by the second reading unit. A modifying unit modifies the modifiable attribute information read out

by the second reading unit. A printing unit prints image data read by the reading unit based on the attribute information modified by the modifying unit.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action the Examiner argues that *Teraura* discloses a reading unit for reading image data from an electronic tag and said electronic tag stores image data printed on the electronically tagged printing paper. This assertion is respectfully traversed.

As disclosed in *Teraura* beginning at the paragraph starting at line 55 of column 7, the first reader-writer 15 is controlled by the control circuit 29 to determine whether the document paper 61 has an RFID tag 14. The control circuit 29 judges whether permission data is included in the data read from the RFID tag 14. There is no disclosure of the RFID tag 14 storing image data or of the reading unit reading image data from the RFID tag 14.

The Office Action recognizes that *Teraura* fails to teach a reading unit for reading out modifiable attribute information among attribute information of the electronically tagged printed matter from the electronic tag, a display unit for displaying the modifiable attribute information, a modifying unit for modifying the modifiable attribute information and a printing unit for printing image data read by the reading unit. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office Action's assertion that *Yano* overcomes the deficiencies of *Teraura* noted above.

Claim 38 recites that the second reading unit reads out modifiable attribute information that corresponds to attribute information which constitutes an appearance of original image data of the image data on the electronically tagged printed matter from an electronic tag. The Examiner recognizes that such a feature is not disclosed in either the Teraura or *Yano* references.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's assertion that *Watanabe* overcomes the deficiencies of *Teraura* and *Yano*. *Watanabe* discloses at paragraph [0133] that the information stored on the IC chip 3 may be area data and attribute data. An attribute of a text is defined in paragraph [0013] of *Watanabe* as, for example, a character, numeral, symbol, which are printed by a predetermined font and an attribute of a picture maybe a drawing and photograph. See also paragraph [0014] and Figs. 4 and 11 where text and picture are given as examples of attribute data. However, none of these are disclosed as being subject to modification. As described at paragraph [0012], a position and an area (area data) with respect to each of the images displayed on the paper original are recorded in association with attributes. Thus, the area data only refers to a printing position of the contents data. There is no disclosure of a modifying unit for modifying the modifiable attribute information read out by the second reading unit nor any disclosure of reading out modifiable attribute information corresponding to attribute information which constitutes an appearance of original image data as in Applicants' independent claim 38.

Independent claims 46 and 54 are allowable for reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to independent claim 38.

The dependent claims are also patentable for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claims from which they depend, as well as for the individual features they recite. For example, dependent claim 60 recites the modifiable attribute information corresponds to at least one of the image data's color, resolution, font size, font color, and font type. Paragraph [0163] of *Watanabe* relates to synthesizing the picture image input from the selecting section with the font image

of the text data and then outputting the synthesized image to the printing section. None of this relates to modifying the attributes listed in claim 60 and this feature is not disclosed by *Teraura, Yano* or *Watanabe,* either alone or in combination.
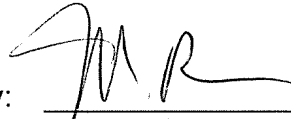
In the event that there are any questions concerning this response, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: <u>April 28, 2009</u>   By: _____

Michael Britton
Registration No. 47,260

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620